

# Children's Voices: Advocate's Choices

*I Have a Dream*

*I wish the rules were  
changed I wish  
the white people and  
black people could live in  
the same houses I wish  
black people and white  
people taught in the same  
schools I wish everyone  
could live just  
loved*

In the very adult world of child advocacy, we need to stop from time to time and listen to the children, we hope to represent. We have to remind ourselves that it is their dreams that we are striving to protect, and their pain that we hope to relieve.

Today some special children and families will share their lives, dreams and experiences with us. We hope their voices can remind us, revive us and rekindle in us the commitment that must inspire the choices we will make on their behalf. Please listen closely.

—ACNU Board and Staff

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

8:30 — 9:15 A.M.	REGISTRATION Coffee and Pastry
9:15 — 10:15 A.M.	GENERAL SESSION AND KEYNOTE Keynote Speaker: Nancy Amodei, National Counselor & Commissioner on Social Policy
10:30 — 12:15 P.M.	MORNING WORKSHOPS (extended session Children's Basic Panel)
12:30 — 1:30 P.M.	LUNCHEON PROGRAM
1:45 — 3:30 P.M.	AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS
3:30 P.M.	POOLSIDE RECEPTION

Special Entertainment to be provided by Joseph Johnston of Camden County

Nancy Amodei is a national and international in child policy issues and former director of the Food Research Action Center, Washington, DC. After working 20 years at the U.S. Customs Laboratory, Washington, D.C., she was formerly, and passed as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and as well as the Senate Health/Commission on Human and Public Health.

### TRAVEL DIRECTIONS HOLIDAY INN, JAMESBURG

#### FROM NORTH/NEW YORK AND SOUTH/PHILADELPHIA

New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 58. Turn left at traffic light, after toll booth and make an immediate right into the hotel parking lot.

#### FROM EASTSHORE AREA

Route 20 West to Applegate Pass. Turn right and follow to traffic light (approximately 5-6 miles). Turn left onto Forsgate Drive follow to next traffic light. Turn left onto Grandview-South River Road. Turn first left to enter hotel parking lot.

#### OR

Route 185 to Route 1 North. Turn right onto Route 671 (toward Princeton/Jericho/Hightstown). Follow to Route 130 turn left onto Route 130 North. Turn right onto Route 32. Forsgate Drive East (approximately 1.2 miles after third traffic light). Hotel is located on right, after traffic light on Route 32.

## MORNING WORKSHOPS

9:45 A.M.

### 1. WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN SCHOOLS

Panelists speak out about why and how they got involved in substance abuse and the problems they encountered getting straight.

### 2. VIEWING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM THROUGH THE EYES OF CHILDREN

The purpose of this workshop is to provide attendees with a sense of how children feel about their involvement with the various components of New Jersey's juvenile justice system. Time will be allotted for questions from the audience.

### 3. "I'M GONNA HELP MY MAM!" SERVICES FOR TEEN PARENTS

An up-to-date presentation by professionals and teen-parents to discuss the various service needs such as: parenting education, values-based child care, life skills, health issues, etc. A project leader of the workshop is the opportunity to talk with some of today's teen parents.

### 4. NO SHELTER FROM THE STORM

Homeless children and families from New Jersey share their experiences with us in an informal, in-the-moment discussion about how they became homeless and what they're going through now.

### 5. DEPENDENT ON THE STATE FOR MY FUTURE

Participants go on the out-of-home-placed-out system through the eyes of a participant.

### 6. AIDS AND MENTAL HEALTH: WE GOT A NEW ATTITUDE

New programs in mental health services are tapping a previously overlooked resource: the children themselves. This talking with other kids can be an effective tool in suicide prevention and the topic of growing up.

## AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

1:45 P.M.

### 7. KEEPING OUR KIDS STRAIGHT: SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION IN THE SCHOOLS

Panelists will be the most visible resources for reaching our children to prevent substance abuse. A panel of experts offer proven model programs and discuss some of the problems that may be encountered in implementing them.

### 8. AN OPEN DISCUSSION OF CURRENT JUVENILE JUSTICE ISSUES

Members of this panel - representatives of the Juvenile Delinquency Assessment Commission, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Corrections - using the JDC's report as a point of departure, will discuss availability of services to the family court, use of dispositional orders, and the respective roles of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Corrections.

### 9. "WE DON'T HAVE TO TAKE OUR CLASSES OFF TO HAVE A GOOD TIME." PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR TEENAGERS

An informative presentation of current pregnancy-prevention strategies. Panelists will discuss strategies to prevention as well as ways to incorporate effective prevention strategies in a number of settings.

### 10. WHO'S EMERGENCY? HOMELESS FAMILIES IN NEW JERSEY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

A panel of experts representing county welfare, legal services, emergency shelter and national housing-group/sponsor New Jersey's current welfare regulations as they affect homeless children and families. Current interpretations and use of emergency assistance regulations will be explored along with discussion of recent related court cases and options used in other states.

### 11. PARENTAL RIGHTS VERSUS PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: An examination of termination of parental rights in New Jersey

### 12. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ADOLESCENTS: MOVING BEYOND DIAGNOSIS AND INTO CORRECTIVE ACTION

Many developments in the children's mental health system have surfaced in the past year which warrant it being called a "system in crisis." This workshop will analyze current state efforts to ameliorate these crisis situations as well as to develop a longer range state plan.

### 13. MEDICINE'S MEDICAL WISDOM PROGRAM

Just begun in July, this program is experiencing more than a few hiccups. The workshop will discuss the program's coverage, as well as implementation issues. It will elicit suggestions from the child already community regarding outreach to needy children and pregnant women.

### 14. KEEPING OUR SCHOOLS SAFE AND SOUND

Some of the issues the panel will consider are: the causes of violence and aggression in our schools and what can be done to prevent it; what happens in discipline rules; what programs are in existence and what needs to be done; what about the victim and their rights; what are the legal implications; and how do we protect civil rights while taking the necessary precautions for keeping our schools safe.

### 15. DUE CARE BEFORE UNDERCARE?: LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

This workshop focuses on the legislative initiatives now pending in New Jersey and bills pending or recently denied in other states on early childhood education. Most start as a model and cooperation between school districts and other current providers will be among topics discussed.

## FACULTY (Partial Listing)

Henry Amiel, National Colonial and Commissioner on Social Policy  
 Maureen Bissel, DYPS Office of Program Operations  
 Mark J. Byrne, Assistant Chief, Training, Education & Prevention Unit, New Jersey State Department of Health  
 Julie Clanton, Community Health Educator, Atlantic County Medical Center  
 Joe Clark, Principal, East Side High School, Paterson, NJ  
 Jean Drexell, Director, Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless  
 Michael Fabricant, Member, Board of Directors, National Coalition for the Homeless  
 Diane Fassullo, Program Associate, NJ Chapter, National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse  
 Claire Farrell, Project Director, Medically Needy Implementation Project, New Jersey Department of Human Services,  
 Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services  
 David Hildreth, Housing Supervisor, Middlesex County Board of Social Services  
 Martin Hudanick, Executive Director, Jersey Delinquency Disposition Commission  
 Mary Long, F.C.A.T. Project Coordinator, Cape May County Youth Services  
 Thomas Lynch, Assistant Commissioner for Division of Juveniles, Department of Corrections  
 Maria Matthews, Health Educator, Planned Parenthood of Bergen County  
 Mary Ellen Meis, Coordinator, Essex County Network on Adolescent Pregnancy  
 Robert Nicholas, Director, Office of Policy & Planning, Department of Human Services  
 Vincent Renda, Adoptive Parent  
 Judy Wilcas, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Morriston, NJ  
 Ann Wilson, Coordinator, New Jersey Network on Adolescent Pregnancy  
 Paula Woods-Wisner, Assistant Director of Education, Bernia Bros  
 Wargo Woods, Associate Director, Governor's Committee on Children's Services Planning  
 Rose Zellars, Supervisor, Adoption Field Operations, Division of Youth and Family Services

ADHU Board and Staff Members are participating as both Facilitators and Mentors

## Children's Voices: Advocate's Choices

Conference Fee: \$25 ADHU Members  
 \$25 Non-Members  
 Special: \$25 Non-Members Fee - includes conference fees, full one-year membership in ADHU and copy of our latest report "Abandoned Dreams."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_  
 ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

### WORKSHOP PREFERENCE

Morning 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Afternoon 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (YES please-enclose me as a member of ADHU) \_\_\_\_\_

Please register early -  
 workshop space limited  
 and will be closed after  
 11:00.

Please detach this form and mail before October 8 to:

ADHU, 17 Academy Street, Suite 208, Newark, New Jersey 07102 (201) 643-5876  
 ADHU South, P.O. Box 634, Beltsman, New Jersey 08007 (609) 854-2686

I cannot attend the conference, but would like to receive membership information \_\_\_\_\_

*Mr. & Mrs. J. J. J. J.*  
*Philadelphia, Pa.*

October 17, 1986  
 Holiday Inn  
 Jamoesburg, Pa.

NO. 808 634  
 BELLHAY, PA 19001

and

NEWARK, NJ 07102  
 17 ACADEMY STREET, SUITE 208  
 ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN  
 OF NEW JERSEY



# I Have a Dream

All schools should  
 have the same  
 equipment.  
 The books, swings  
 basketballs and  
 everything that  
 kids need.  
 Some schools are  
 far away have  
 these things.  
 I think that  
 every one should  
 have these things  
 so one should  
 judge people by  
 the color of  
 their skin.

## Children's Voices Advocate's Choices

October 17, 1986  
 Holiday Inn  
 Jamoesburg, New Jersey

A day-long Child Advocacy Conference sponsored by the Association for Children of New Jersey